

What is claimed is:

1. ~~A traffic law enforcement system wherein~~

at least two enforcement units having license plate readers are spaced apart a given distance;
at least one central computer receives inputs, including license-plate numbers of vehicles which pass the license plate readers, from the at least two enforcement units; and

the at least two enforcement units and the at least one central computer cooperate to calculate an average velocity of a vehicle which passes between the at least two enforcement units, using the inputs of a) drivable distance between enforcement units which transmitted matching license plate numbers, b) posted speed limit data between enforcement units which transmitted matching license plate numbers, and c) time lapsed between the transmission of the matching license plate numbers to the central computer.

2. The system of claim 1 further comprising at least one decoy unit and attachment means which

enable an enforcement unit to be replaced by a decoy unit and vice versa.

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3. ~~A traffic law enforcement system having at least two enforcement units at at least two locations and a central computer, wherein~~

the at least two enforcement units read identifying indicia from passing vehicles at the at least two locations and transmit at least the identifying indicia to the central computer; and

wherein

the central computer:

a) associates a time of the transmission and a location of the source of the identifying indicia such that when the central computer recognizes that an identifying indicia was received which matches another identifying indicia received earlier in time and within a predetermined maximum time period, the central computer accesses a table, the table including

i) an estimation of a minimum drivable distance between the at least two enforcement units which sent the matching identifying indicia and,

ii) an estimation of the maximum average permissible velocity between the two locations, the estimation generated, at least indirectly, from speed limit data corresponding to road segments which defined the minimum drivable distance between the at least two locations;

b) calculates the average speed of an alleged vehicle which passed between the at least two locations; and

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~~c) compares the maximum average permissible velocity with the average velocity of the vehicle for the purpose of determining whether the vehicle exceeded the maximum average permissible velocity between the at least two locations.~~

~~4 The system of claim 3 further comprising at least one decoy unit and attachment means which enable an enforcement unit to be replaced by a decoy unit and vice versa.~~

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~~5 The system of claim 3, wherein a signal is sent to the enforcement unit which was last in time to send matching identifying indicia to cause the enforcement unit to capture an image of the vehicle having the matching identifying indicia for enforcement purposes.~~

~~6 The system of claim 1, wherein at least three enforcement units cooperate with the at least one central computer to identify a vehicle whose average velocity is calculated across the path of the at least three enforcement units and in which at least two images of the vehicle are recorded for evidentiary purposes.~~

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